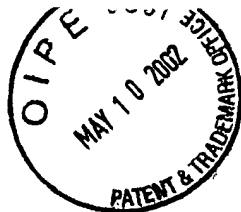


S/N 10/049,798



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	HIRAMATSU et al.	Examiner:	unknown
Serial No.:	10/049,798	Group Art Unit:	unknown
Filed:	February 12, 2002	Docket No.:	10873.872USWO
Title:	MEASURING EQUIPMENT AND MEASURING METHOD USING CARTRIDGE CONTAINER, AND PROGRAM RECORDING MEDIUM		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and the paper(s), as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 30, 2002.

By: 

Jennifer Holden

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked

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as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Dated: April 30, 2002

By: 

Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No.: 30,300

DPM/jh



FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 10873.872USWO	Application Number: 10/049,798
	Applicant: HIRAMATSU et al.	
	Filing Date: February 12, 2002	Group Art Unit: unknown

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	1-312467	Dec. 18, 1989	Japan			Abstract	
	3-181853	Aug. 7, 1991	Japan			Abstract	
	8-122336	May 17, 1996	Japan			Abstract	
	8-211071	Aug. 20, 1996	Japan			Abstract	
	9-127129	May 16, 1997	Japan			Abstract	
	1-1316226	Nov. 16, 1999	Japan			Abstract	
	58(1983)-36359	Mar 9, 1983	Japan			Partial	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	